

**Devost, Helene**

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**From:** Walsh, Stephanie-CBSA  
**Sent:** September 30, 2015 10:28 AM  
**To:** Carmichael, Tim  
**Subject:** FW: 3D printers

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**From:** Kimberley Glass [mailto:Kimberley.Glass@rcmp-grc.gc.ca]  
**Sent:** August 9, 2013 2:26 PM  
**To:** Walsh, Stephanie-CBSA  
**Subject:** RE: 3D printers

No....and I do not think there ever will be. It is not like these printers are being used exclusively for manufacturing firearms. They have numerous efficient functions and will likely grow in popularity to support the manufacture of any number of items.

>>> "Walsh, Stephanie-CBSA" <Stephanie.Walsh@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca> 09/08/2013 2:10 PM >>>

Yes, Carl sent it to me yesterday and asked for information but as far as I'm aware there are no regulations that control this type of thing

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**From:** Kimberley Glass [mailto:Kimberley.Glass@rcmp-grc.gc.ca]  
**Sent:** August 9, 2013 2:04 PM  
**To:** Walsh, Stephanie-CBSA  
**Subject:** Re: 3D printers

OH....speaking of topics taking up an inordinate amount of time lately.....  
to my knowledge, they are NOT regulated or controlled. Murray has been the lead on this subject so I have not done a lot of in-depth reading, but I have been doing a lot lately!!! I have not come across any information pertaining to any current controls - only people proposing some sort of control.

FYI....Murray just got an E-mail from Carl Blackhawk referencing the FBI-ATF bulletin, requesting assistance to put together a CBSA Intelligence Commentary on the subject. I will be responding to him to let him know Murray is away. We may be able to assist, but it will depend on the timing. Have you seen this FBI-ATF bulletin?

Kim

>>> "Walsh, Stephanie-CBSA" <Stephanie.Walsh@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca> 08/08/2013 2:26 PM >>>  
Hi Kim

Are you aware if Stereo lithographic and Fused Deposition Modelling printers are controlled or regulated in any way?

Thanks  
Stephanie

**Devost, Helene**

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**From:** Carmichael, Tim  
**Sent:** September 25, 2015 11:06 AM  
**To:** Blackhawk, Carl  
**Subject:** FW: Distribution of Information about Weapons

Hello Carl,

I received the email below from one of our contacts in the region. In discussion with Stephanie Walsh, she tells me that your area may put out these type of notices(??) out.

If so, can I put Jeremy in touch with you? Our area is always happy to confirm any information on these notices to ensure accuracy.

Thank you,

Tim

**Tim Carmichael**

Senior Program Officer /

Other Government Departments Programs Unit

Programs Branch / Canada Border Services Agency / Government of Canada

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Agent principal de programme / Programmes des autres ministères /

Direction générale des programmes / Agence des services frontaliers du Canada

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Tél. : 613-954-6933 / ATS : 866-335-3237

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**From:** Anderson, JeremyC

**Sent:** September 22, 2015 10:58 AM

**To:** Carmichael, Tim

**Subject:** Distribution of Information about Weapons

Hi Tim,

I was wondering who, if anyone, is responsible for providing information to front line officers, intel & investigators regarding weapon issues.

When needed, I try to inform people in my area to look out for various things like folding brass knuckles or whatever the flavour of the week may be. However, I'm a pretty tiny fish in this pond. So, I was wondering if there was a more formal process for disseminating information that might also reach more people.

If such a thing exists, can you let me know how to contact them if and when I come across something interesting to get out there?

Thanks,

# 19858 (J.C. Anderson)

Senior Officer Trade Compliance, Operations Branch (PIU)  
Canada Border Services Agency / Government of Canada  
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## Devost, Helene

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**From:** Walsh, Stephanie-CBSA  
**Sent:** September 30, 2015 10:29 AM  
**To:** Carmichael, Tim  
**Subject:** FW: 2014-030-3D PRINTABLE FIREARMS // 2014-030-ARMES À FEU IMPRIMÉES EN 3D  
**Attachments:** 2014-030 3D Printable firearms.pdf; 2014-030-ARMES À FEU IMPRIMÉES EN 3D .pdf

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**From:** Bourgoïn, Denis  
**Sent:** April 9, 2014 6:57 AM  
**To:** Walsh, Stephanie-CBSA  
**Subject:** FW: 2014-030-3D PRINTABLE FIREARMS // 2014-030-ARMES À FEU IMPRIMÉES EN 3D

fyi

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**From:** ATL- E&I AINTAC  
**Sent:** April 9, 2014 7:14 AM  
**To:** ATL-Dist\_CBSA\_NL\_NS\_District; ATL-Dist\_CTSO\_all\_CBSA-tous\_ASFC; ATL-Dist\_NB\_CBSA-ASFC; CBSA-ASFC\_NTC-CNC Atlantic-Atlantique; CBSA-ASFC\_SOR EIOD Ops Support; Duteau, Gaby; PAC-CBSA, EID ISU; PRA-Calgary, I&C Bulletins; Que\_Mtl\_ASFC\_Agents\_Analystes\_Renseignement; Robertson, Linda; Barton, Brad; Cordy, Sharon; Cormier, Michel; Daley, Susan; Del Villano, Lisa; Delvillano, Adam; Dolliver, Curtis; Firth, Heidie; Foster, Sean; Frost, Keith; Harper, Heidi; Hiemstra, Sheryl; House, Diane; Jenkinson, Michelle; Klenavic, Michael; Lapointe, Pierre; LeBlanc, Noella; Mitchell, Lori; Morey, Philip; Pelz, Robert; Saulnier, Paul; Watson, Rachelle; Watt, Cynthia; Wiens, Diane; Woodin, Shawna; Andrews, Danielle; Benic, Tanya; Bennett, Kristy; Bourque, Annie; Gallant, Michel; Godin, Robert; Graham, Jonathan; Harper, Paul; Johnson, Ellen; Lawrence, Guy; MacKenzie, Donna; Mahoney, Anne; Parker, Kathy; Sedore, Danny; Wellon, Bob; Cannon, Jason; Ferguson, Frank; Hall, Benedict; Hayward, Jeff; Hicks, Lana; Hooper, Darryl; MacDonald, Blair; Ouellette, Marc; Renzetti, John; Teran, Sandra; Walker, Michael; Bastarache, Jamie; Bubar, Mitchell; Critchlow, Tom; Levesque, Charlene; Nault, Ron; Price, Albert  
**Subject:** 2014-030-3D PRINTABLE FIREARMS // 2014-030-ARMES À FEU IMPRIMÉES EN 3D

**Please see attached Bulletin 2014-030 If you have any questions or concerns, contact your local intelligence officer.**

**Vous trouverez ci-joint le bulletin 2014-030 Si vous avez des questions ou des préoccupations, veuillez communiquer avec votre agent local du renseignement.**

Atlantic Information Management & Threat Analysis Centre | Centre d'analyse des menaces et de gestion de l'information de l'Atlantique

 Canada Border Services Agency    Agence des services frontaliers du Canada

Border Services



Services frontaliers

**Devost, Helene**

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**From:** Walsh, Stephanie-CBSA  
**Sent:** September 30, 2015 10:29 AM  
**To:** Carmichael, Tim  
**Subject:** FW: Prospect of easily made 3D printer guns a worry for federal officials

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**From:** Burt, Martin  
**Sent:** October 22, 2013 7:42 AM  
**To:** Auclair, Rachel  
**Cc:** Sobie, Vanessa; Walsh, Stephanie-CBSA; Carmichael, Tim  
**Subject:** RE: Prospect of easily made 3D printer guns a worry for federal officials

Rachel – attached is a response to Megan's question:

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At the current time there is no impact on Border Programs.

We are aware of the possible use of 3D printers to manufacture firearms or parts and have had some discussions with the RCMP Firearms Lab on this subject. The actual printers have widespread industrial and commercial applications and it seems unlikely that there would be any import controls placed on the printers themselves, in part due to the difficulty in determining the intended use of the printers. It is currently possible to manufacture a functioning "firearm" out of commonly available items and these are subject to existing domestic licensing and registration requirements. As the article states, any firearms manufactured by 3D printers would be subject to the same controls.

The article also refers to the planned study is being funded through a federal initiative aimed at improving the collection, analysis and sharing of firearms-related intelligence and information. This initiative is *Investments to Combat the Criminal Use of Firearms* (ICCUF). E&I are the CBSA lead on ICCUF and the role of the Regional Intelligence Firearms Liaison Officer (RIFLO) network.

We will continue to monitor this issue and will advise of any developments.

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**From:** Imrie, Megan  
**Sent:** October 21, 2013 5:54 PM  
**To:** Burt, Martin; Auclair, Rachel  
**Cc:** Boyd, Beverley; Chevalier, Shauna; Davis, Katrina; Sobie, Vanessa  
**Subject:** FW: Prospect of easily made 3D printer guns a worry for federal officials

Hi folks – can you please advise of any impacts if any for us on this?

Thanks Megan

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**From:** PSPMediaCentre/CentredesmediasPSP [<mailto:PSPMediaCentre/CentredesmediasPSP@ps-sp.gc.ca>]  
**Sent:** October 21, 2013 5:44 PM  
**To:** Today's News / Actualités  
**Subject:** CP: Prospect of easily made 3D printer guns a worry for federal officials

**Prospect of easily made 3D printer guns a worry for federal officials**  
Canadian Press



Jim Bronskill  
Oct 21 2013, 17h41 ET

The federal Public Safety Department is worried about the emergence of three-dimensional printers that can easily manufacture guns without any kind of licensing control.

The department is commissioning a study that will look at the advent of 3D technology and the feasibility of crafting firearms, gun parts and ammunition.

It is also interested in possible technological solutions that could be applied to such printers to prevent them from making guns.

In May, the U.S. government made headlines when it ordered a Texas-based website to remove blueprints for using a 3D printer to manufacture a handgun.

Files for the "Liberator" gun were quickly downloaded more than 100,000 times, prompting concern in Washington and state capitals, the Public Safety Department notes.

The possibility of cheaply produced firearms has also stirred concern in Europe.

Aside from the fact the newfangled printers could allow someone to make a weapon in their basement, the fact the guns can be constructed from non-traditional materials, such as plastic, have sparked fears they could slip through airport security checkpoints undetected.

The Public Safety Department recently issued a call for a contractor to carry out a study on the budding phenomenon with an eye to receiving a final report by next March.

The notice points out that legal possession of a firearm in Canada requires a licence and, in the case of handguns and other restricted guns, a registration certificate.

In addition, a firearms business licence is needed to manufacture a gun.

While 3D printers have been around for some time, their price has dropped to between \$1,500 and \$5,000, making them more accessible. The machines rely on computer software to fashion everything from airplane parts to human bones, all to exacting specifications.

"The emergence of 3D printing could transform manufacturing of firearms such that firearms could be more easily made by individuals and groups," the notice says.

"As 3D printing technology becomes more available and refined, there is a need to examine its implications for the manufacture of firearms, their components and ammunition."

The study is being funded through a federal initiative aimed at improving the collection, analysis and sharing of firearms-related intelligence and information. It involves Public Safety partners the RCMP, the Canada Border Services Agency and the Criminal Intelligence Service Canada.

The research will trace the historical evolution of 3D technology and the accessibility of software and materials involved in making guns.

It will also look at the international context, comparing the policies of police, policy officials and lawmakers in different countries on both the legal and illicit manufacturing of firearms.

The department also wants the authors to explore technological or "software controls that could be put on 3D printers to prevent the production of 3D printed guns."

In addition, the researchers are expected to examine the role of the Internet in sharing blueprints and other requirements for making 3D guns, as well as stake out unanswered questions about the legal, political, national security and economic dimensions of the futuristic firearms.

Bidders have until Nov. 27 to express interest in the project.

**Devost, Helene**

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**From:** Blackhawk, Carl  
**Sent:** September 30, 2015 10:58 AM  
**To:** Carmichael, Tim  
**Subject:** RE: developing 3D printer advisory

In respect to the question from the other day, that's a small and equally the same, a big question. It's an operational issue but we're (intel folks) certainly interested in assisting but it's not 'intelligence' – such operational references should go into a information repository akin to the ICES enforcement library – perhaps a Wiki page?

Carl Blackhawk  
613-948-9732

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**From:** Carmichael, Tim  
**Sent:** September-30-15 10:36 AM  
**To:** Blackhawk, Carl  
**Subject:** RE: developing 3D printer advisory

Hello Carl,

For HS Codes contact the Tariff Functional Guidance unit. [Tariff\\_classification.classement\\_tarifaire@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:Tariff_classification.classement_tarifaire@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca)

As far as background information, other than being aware of the technology and seeing a result at a conference on International Firearms Trafficking in Ottawa a few years ago, we do not have much. I am enclosing a n email on an bulletin put out by the Atlantic region we received.

Have you had a chance to look at the question I sent the other day (see attached).

Tim

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**From:** Blackhawk, Carl  
**Sent:** September 30, 2015 9:51 AM  
**To:** Carmichael, Tim  
**Subject:** developing 3D printer advisory

Good Morning Tim,

I've been requested to develop an advisory on 3D Printers in respect to illicit firearms use and what the CBSA can do about it when 3D printers are imported by suspicious folks.

It's kinda a tall order as these goods are controlled, regulated or prohibited.

But what will be necessary to offer in an Advisory is the HS Codes that are applicable to the printers.

Furthermore, my readings so far indicate that there are four types of 3d printers and only two are capable of producing models with sufficient resilience to function as working firearms.

My request to you (and Stephanie's background knowledge) is in respect to any background information on this matter: does your shop have background info?; and who would I contact regarding the proper HS codes?

I will be contacting Murray Smith at the RCMP soon for their consultation.

Many thanks

cb



**Carl Blackhawk**

*Intelligence Operations and Analysis Division*

*Enforcement and Intelligence Operations Directorate*

*Operations Branch*

*CBSA HQ*

*613-948-9732*

**Devost, Helene**

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**From:** Carmichael, Tim  
**Sent:** August 3, 2018 11:38 AM  
**To:** Harper, Everett  
**Subject:** FW: For Program review : Media lines -3D printed firearms  
**Attachments:** PS-SP-#2716712-v2-ML-3D\_printed\_firearms.doc

Everett,

I have reviewed the attached document and have no issues or concerns on the CBSA portion. As for the Q & A section, the Enforcement branch may have statistics for:

Do Canada (RCMP or other law enforcement) has any statistics re: 3D printed firearms seized in Canada? If not, why?

Please forward to Mike for his approval to return to Communications.

Thank you,

Tim

**Tim Carmichael**

Senior Program Officer /  
Other Government Departments Programs Unit  
Programs Branch / Canada Border Services Agency / Government of Canada  
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Tél. : 613-954-6933 / ATS : 866-335-3237

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**From:** Kaminska, Colleen  
**Sent:** August 3, 2018 11:08 AM  
**To:** Carmichael, Tim <[Tim.Carmichael@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:Tim.Carmichael@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** McGiffin, Cailin <[Cailin.McGiffin@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:Cailin.McGiffin@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca)>; Genest, Hubert <[Hubert.GENEST@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:Hubert.GENEST@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** For Program review : Media lines -3D printed firearms

Hi Tim,

Thank you very much for the chat.

As discussed, PS drafted messaging on 3D printed firearms (document attached).

If you could please review the CBSA portion and advise if CBSA can provide anything to the Q&A section, that would be most helpful.

I would appreciate your response **by end of day today**, if at all possible.

Thank you,

Colleen Kaminska

Communications Advisor, Strategic Policy Branch  
Canada Border Services Agency / Government of Canada  
[colleen.kaminska@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:colleen.kaminska@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca) / Tel: 613-954-6465 / TTY: 866-335-3237

Conseillère en communications, Direction générale de la politique stratégique  
Agence des services frontaliers du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada  
[colleen.kaminska@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:colleen.kaminska@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca) / Tél. : 613-954-6465 / ATS : 866-335-3237

## Devost, Helene

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**From:** Harper, Everett  
**Sent:** August 3, 2018 12:47 PM  
**To:** Kaminska, Colleen  
**Cc:** McGiffin, Cailin; Genest, Hubert; Carmichael, Tim  
**Subject:** FW: For Program review : Media lines -3D printed firearms  
**Attachments:** PS-SP-#2716712-v2-ML-3D\_printed\_firearms.doc

Hi Colleen,

We have no comments to add on these media lines. Our Director's (Mike Juneke) approval is indicated below.

Everett Harper (for Pat Claeys)  
a/Manager OGD Programs Unit

**From:** Juneke, Michael  
**Sent:** August 3, 2018 12:42 PM  
**To:** Harper, Everett <Everett.Harper@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** PPMD / DPGP (CBSA/ASFC) <CBSA.PPMD-DPGP.ASFC@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Carmichael, Tim <Tim.Carmichael@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: For Program review : Media lines -3D printed firearms

Approved, thanks.

**From:** Harper, Everett  
**Sent:** August 3, 2018 12:33 PM  
**To:** Juneke, Michael <Michael.Juneke@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** PPMD / DPGP (CBSA/ASFC) <CBSA.PPMD-DPGP.ASFC@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Carmichael, Tim <Tim.Carmichael@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: For Program review : Media lines -3D printed firearms

Hi Mike,

Attached are joint Public Safety-RCMP-CBSA media lines on 3D printed guns which require your approval to publish. OGDPU has no comments to add to the document.

Please advise if you approve and we will respond to Colleen. She would like them by EOD today.

Thanks!

Everett (for Helen) (for Pat)

**From:** Kaminska, Colleen  
**Sent:** August 3, 2018 11:08 AM  
**To:** Carmichael, Tim <Tim.Carmichael@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** McGiffin, Cailin <Cailin.McGiffin@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Genest, Hubert <Hubert.GENEST@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** For Program review : Media lines -3D printed firearms

Hi Tim,

Thank you very much for the chat.

As discussed, PS drafted messaging on 3D printed firearms (document attached).

If you could please review the CBSA portion and advise if CBSA can provide anything to the Q&A section, that would be most helpful.

I would appreciate your response **by end of day today**, if at all possible.

Thank you,

Colleen Kaminska

Communications Advisor, Strategic Policy Branch  
Canada Border Services Agency / Government of Canada  
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## Media Lines

### 3D Printed Guns

August 1, 2018

#### Issue:

There has been a significant amount of media coverage on 3D printed guns in the United States and Canada recently.

On July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018, a federal U.S. judge in Seattle stopped the release of blueprints that would allow citizens to make their own undetectable 3D-printed plastic guns. This ban came into force just hours before a Texas-based company was going to make 3D-printed guns available for online, personal downloads.

The issue is becoming widespread and causing public safety concern in Canada as well. The printing of 3D guns could increase the availability of untraceable firearms, and put guns in the hands of those who shouldn't otherwise have access to them.

Further media attention and requests to the PS portfolio are anticipated. Questions pertaining to the *Criminal Code* and corresponding regulations will have to be deferred to Justice Canada.

#### KEY MESSAGES – PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA/JUSTICE CANADA

- Regardless of manufacturing method, a business licence is required to produce a firearm and all firearms are subject to the *Firearms Act*, the *Criminal Code* and their associated Regulations.
- It is illegal to manufacture or possess a firearm without the appropriate licence and applicable registration certificate.
- The *Firearms Act* requires that a business, museum, or organization must have a firearms business licence to manufacture ammunition, firearms, restricted or prohibited weapons, or prohibited devices. A business licence is valid only for the activities specified on the licence.
- It is a criminal offence under section 99 of the *Criminal Code* (weapons trafficking) for any person to manufacture, whether or not for consideration: "a firearm, a prohibited weapon, a restricted weapon, or a prohibited device, any ammunition or any prohibited ammunition knowing that the person is not authorized to do so under the *Firearms Act*, any other Act of Parliament, or any regulations made under any Act of Parliament."
- The penalty for committing an offence under section 99 is imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years and includes mandatory minimum penalties of imprisonment that vary depending on the circumstances.

Commented [BV1]: DOJ to confirm

Commented [BV2]: DOJ to confirm



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DRAFT

- Most experts agree that 3D-printed firearms are prohibitively expensive to produce, and most will have a tendency to fail due to their porosity.
- Government of Canada's officials are closely monitoring developments related to 3D printed firearms.

**If pressed on what are the penalties if a Canadian downloads or share 3D firearms blueprints?**

- There is nothing in the *Firearms Act* or associated regulations that prohibits a person from downloading or sharing a blueprint of a 3D firearm.

**KEY MESSAGES – CBSA:**

- Canadian firearms laws are clear. All travellers must declare any firearms in their possession when they enter Canada. Anyone who does not declare them upon arrival can face prosecution and the firearms, and the vehicle used to carry them, may be seized.
- Firearms and weapons, including 3D-printed firearms, are high-risk commodities and their interdiction in Canada is a CBSA enforcement priority.
- The CBSA is responsible for enforcing Canadian legislation at designated ports of entry in Canada; while the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) is responsible for enforcing the law between ports of entry.
- Border services officers are always on the lookout for illegal and dangerous goods and take their protection role very seriously.
- They are trained in various investigative techniques and look for a number of risk-based indicators.
- The CBSA works closely with other law enforcement agencies including the RCMP and local authorities to ensure the protection and safety of Canadian communities.

**If pressed on 3D gun statistics:**

- Please note the CBSA does not collect statistics on 3D printed firearms seized specifically, but rather categorizes individual seizures by class of firearm (non-restricted, restricted, prohibited, etc.).
- Seizure statistics can be found [here](#).

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Canada

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DRAFT

#### KEY MESSAGES – RCMP:

- In Canada, all firearms, regardless of how they are manufactured, are classified as non-restricted, restricted, or prohibited pursuant to the criteria outlined in subsection 84(1) of the *Criminal Code*.
- With regard to 3D-printed firearms, the RCMP is aware of the technology and continues to monitor developments.
- It is illegal to manufacture or possess a firearm without the appropriate licences and applicable registration certificates.
- If, for example, law enforcement found an individual in possession of a 3D printer-manufactured firearm without appropriate licences and registration, the firearm could be seized and the individual charged.

Commented [BV3]: DOJ to confirm

#### ADDITIONAL Q&As:

- How much do these 3D printers cost?
- Are we aware of the use of 3D printers used by organized crimes to create firearms?
- Do Canada (RCMP or other law enforcement) has any statistics re: 3D printed firearms seized in Canada? If not, why?
- How many rounds could they fire accurately?
- Is Canada working with the United States and other countries to monitor the issue and find solutions? If so, how?

Commented [BV4]: PS policy. RCMP and/or CBSA. do you have any response, even partial, to provide?

Canada

**Devost, Helene**

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**From:** Angie Mcklusky <angie.mcklusky@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** August 10, 2018 03:47 PM  
**To:** Knox, Ginger  
**Cc:** Carmichael, Tim; Suzanne Easton  
**Subject:** RE: 3D Printed Firearms

Good morning Ginger,

In Canada, all firearms, regardless of how they are manufactured, are classified as non-restricted, restricted, or prohibited pursuant to the criteria outlined in subsection 84(1) of the *Criminal Code*.

With regard to 3D-printed firearms, the Canadian Firearms Program is aware of the technology and continue to monitor developments.

It is illegal to manufacture or possess a firearm without the appropriate licences and applicable registration certificates. If, for example, law enforcement found an individual in possession of a 3D printer-manufactured firearm without appropriate licences and registration, the firearm could be seized and the individual charged.

I confirmed with our firearm technicians, that they are currently working with the CBSA Policy section on the technical aspects of 3d printing guns.

Our policy section has been in contact with Tim Carmichael regarding previous requests - both have been cc'd in this e-mail

Let me know if you have further questions - Have a good weekend,  
Angie Mcklusky

Angie Mcklusky  
Section Head, Registration  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
Canadian Firearms Program  
Tel: 613-843-6878 / 1-800-731-4000 ext 1026  
>>> "Knox, Ginger" <Ginger.Knox@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca> 2018/08/08 2:07 PM >>>

Good afternoon Angie,

Thanks for allowing me to consult with you on this subject. I am an Intelligence Analyst with the CBSA in Winnipeg and have been tasked with exploring a threat assessment for 3D printed guns. I am already deep into the research on the subject and have a variety of good resources for information from law enforcement agencies all over the world but one area I require clarification in is how 3D guns can be registered in Canada, if at all.

My understanding is that it is illegal to manufacture a gun in Canada without the proper licence/registration under the trafficking section of the CCC. I also believe that a 3D printed gun isn't considered a firearm until it's fully functional (will it be classified as prohibited or restricted...?). So notwithstanding the fact that an individual who makes a 3D printed gun without registering it is illegal, if a person were to want to take the legal route and actually attempt to register a 3D printed gun, would this be possible? You've told me a serial number is easy enough for you to assign. But how would this gun be classified? There are a wide variety of 3D gun blueprints available so they won't all look the same. Does the structural integrity of the weapon factor in at all? Meaning that a very high-end 3D printer is required to make a quality 3D printed gun and if a person tries to create one with a "cheaper" printer or poor design and it is

shoddily constructed, does this matter to the RCMP's firearm registration system/verifier? Note that there is no "standardized" digital design for 3D guns at this point. Finally, has registration of a 3D printed gun been attempted, to date?

The implications for the CBSA are that when a person imports or attempts to import a firearm into Canada, on behalf of the RCMP Firearms Registration program, we fill out the documentation with the client to have the firearm registered so that it can be legally imported. If we encounter an individual who lawfully declares that they have a 3D printed gun that they would like to register and import, we have no protocol on how to move forward with this process. Further, if a 3D printed gun is discovered during a search of the person or their goods upon entry into Canada and the gun is undeclared, we will need to know how to process the individual. Do we arrest them for the smuggling of a prohibited or restricted firearm? What about if the gun is disassembled and thus not "functional?"

I would appreciate the information your policy/legal department and firearms technicians can offer me. Thanks for forwarding this on. I look forward to the response.

**Ginger Knox**

A/Intelligence Analyst, Enforcement and Intelligence Operations Division  
Canada Border Services Agency  
204-984-7081

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**From:** Angie Mcklusky [mailto:angie.mcklusky@rcmp-grc.gc.ca]  
**Sent:** August 8, 2018 11:49 AM  
**To:** Ginger.knox@cbsa.gc.ca  
**Subject:** 3D Printed Firearms

Good day,

As per our phone conversation - please advise what information you require regarding 3D printed firearms.

As far as I know, 3D printed guns would still meet the definition of a firearm as per section 84 of the *Criminal Code* - therefore registration would be required  
(A Firearm Identification Number would be issued as there would be no serial number)

To confirm this though, I will forward your request to our firearm technicians and possibly our policy section (as I believe the policy section has been reviewing this issue)

Have a good day,  
Angie

Angie Mcklusky  
Section Head, Registration  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
Canadian Firearms Program  
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